

REMARKS

After entry of this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 7, 11-14, 18-40, and 48-60 are pending in the application. Claims 48-60 have been added to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants' regard as the invention. For the following reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Applicants' invention as set forth in the claims includes features which are not anticipated and rendered obvious by the cited references, taken singly or in any combinations posed by the Examiner. Reconsideration of the application as amended is requested.

In the Office Action dated July 26, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1-2 and 18-22 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Roller. Claims 1, 2, 16-17 and 22-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Barkley. Claims 16-17 have been cancelled by the Amendment submitted July 11, 2005 and are no longer pending in the application. Claims 1, 2, 7, 11, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wu. Claims 7, 11 and 12 are dependant on an allowed independent claim and therefore the invention disclosed in claims 7, 11, and 12 is not anticipated, taught or suggested by Wu. It is respectfully submitted that Roller, Barkley, or Wu do not anticipate, teach, or suggest the invention recited in the claims recited above.

While the references of Roller and Barkley define thermally conductive elements used to convey heat, such references lack any teaching or suggestion of a low porosity, one piece, thermally conductive mass having a high degree of heat transfer efficiency due to the low porosity, as set forth by the Applicants in claim 1. Specifically, Roller describes the use of various electrical insulation materials having "good heat conducting properties" located in the slots, between the heating elements and the heating plate to improve thermal conductivity, but none of the improvements include a one piece thermal conductive mass having low porosity. See col. 2, ll. 49-60. Barkley discloses a device having a foil heater 18 disposed between two heat exchange elements 14, 16 formed of "a metal, e.g. bronze or tellurium-copper alloy," which produces heat that is transferred by insulating layers 20 and 22 to the heat exchange elements. See col. 3, ll. 18-25. Barkley does not disclose that the heat foil is thermally coupled to a one-piece thermal conductive mass having low porosity.

The reference of Wu fails to disclose a thermally conductive body and instead merely discloses a "metallic body." See col. 2, ll. 12 & 28. A heating unit 3 is enclosed by insulating material and located in a groove 2 of the metallic body 1. Wu does not disclose that the heating unit is thermally coupled to a metallic body

that is a one-piece thermal conductive mass having low porosity. Therefore it is respectfully submitted that Roller, Barkley, or Wu do not anticipate, teach, or suggest the invention recited independent claim 1 and claims 2 and 18-26, which depend from claim 1.

Claims 15 and 27 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barkley in view of Rocchitelli. Claim 15 has been cancelled by the Amendment submitted July 11, 2005 and is no longer pending in the application. The Barkley reference discloses two heat exchange elements 14, 16 having a heater 18 disposed sandwiched between them. See col. 3, ll. 12-15. Between each heat exchange element 14, 16 and the heater 18 is an insulating layer 20, 22 that transmits heat 18 from the heater to the heat exchange elements 14, 16.

See col. 3, ll. 18-22. The apparatus does not include a one piece thermally conductive mass having low porosity that is thermally coupled to a heating means.

Rocchitelli is relevant only for its disclosure of a heating device used for heating washer fluid in a vehicle window apparatus. It is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art would not be led by Barkley and Rocchitelli, to provide a one piece, low porosity thermally conductive mass formed as defined by the Applicants in claim 27 for use in a vehicle window apparatus.

In addition, new product by process claims 48-60 have been added as a linking claims between the product claims 1, 2, 7-14, and 18-27 and process claims 28-40. Pursuant to MPEP§806.05(f) it is properly grouped with the product claims 1, 2, 7-14, and 18-27. Pursuant to MPEP§809.03, a claim to the necessary process of making a product links proper process and product claims together, where the inventions otherwise may be divisible. Pursuant to MPEP§814, the linking claim should not be associated with any one of the linked inventions, since such claims must be examined with any one of the linked inventions that may be elected. Pursuant to MPEP§809.04, if a linking claim is allowed, the Examiner must thereafter examine the claims to the non-elected invention that are linked to the elected invention by the indication of the allowability of the linking claim. Therefore rejoinder of claims 28-40 is respectfully requested.

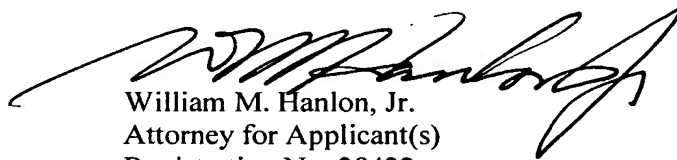
It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment traverses and overcomes all of the Examiner's objections and rejections to the application as originally filed. It is further submitted that this Amendment has antecedent basis in the application as originally filed, including the specification, claims and drawings, and that this Amendment does not add any new subject matter to the application.

Reconsideration of the application as amended is requested. It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment places the application in suitable condition for allowance; notice of which is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner feels that prosecution of the present application can be expedited by way of Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' attorney at the telephone listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. M. Hanlon, Jr.', is written over the typed name and title.

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